#### STATE OF MONTANA LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EXCLUDING THE CONSUMER COUNSEL

FINANCIAL-COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

#### LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

Scott A. Seacat, Legislative Auditor Tori Hunthausen, Chief Deputy Legislative Auditor



Deputy Legislative Auditors: James Gillett Angie Grove

October 2007

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

Enclosed is the report on the financial audit of the Montana Legislative Branch for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 2007.

The audit was conducted by Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, PC under a contract between the firm and our office. The comments contained in this report represent the views of the firm and not necessarily the Legislative Auditor.

The Branch's written response to the report is included in the back of the audit report.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Seacat Legislative Auditor

07C-05

#### STATE OF MONTANA LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EXCLUDING THE CONSUMER COUNSEL CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Elected and appointed officials	3
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Independent Auditor's report	4
Schedule of changes in fund balances for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006	5
Schedule of total revenues and transfers-in for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006	6
Schedule of total expenditures and transfers-out for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006	7
Schedule of changes in fund balances for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007	8
Schedule of total revenues and transfers-in for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007	9
Schedule of total expenditures and transfers-out for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007	10
Notes to financial statements	11
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS FOR GAO	
Independent auditors' report on: Internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards	12-13
Agency response	14

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EXCLUDING THE CONSUMER COUNSEL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS AS OF JUNE 30, 2007

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

#### **REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **SENATORS**

Debby Barrett
Bob Bergren - Presiding Officer
Wicki Cocchiarella
Margarett Campbell
Mike Cooney
Dennis Himmelberger - Vice Presiding Officer
Kelly Gebhardt
Dave McAlpin
Dan Harrington
Scott Sales
Corey Stapleton

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: St

Susan Byorth Fox

#### LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

#### **REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **SENATORS**

Bill Beck
William Glaser
Gregory Barkus
Betsy Hands
Hal Jacobson -Vice Presiding Officer
Mike Phillips
John Sinrud
Joe Balyeat - Presiding Officer
Gregory Barkus
Steve Gallus
Dave Lewis
Lynda Moss
Mitch Tropila

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR:

Scott A. Seacat

#### LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND LEGISLATIVE FISCAL DIVISION

#### **REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **SENATORS**

Ron Erickson

Cynthia Hiner

Dave Kasten

Rick Ripley - Vice Presiding Officer

John Brueggeman

John Cobb

Keith Bales

Jon Sesso

Dave Wanzenried

Janna Taylor

Carol Williams

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST: Clayton L. Schenck

P.O. Box 1164 Helena, Montana 59624 ph. (406) 442-6901 fx. (406) 442-9690 www.jccspa.com

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Legislative Audit Committee Of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the accompanying financial schedules of the Legislative Branch, excluding the Consumer Counsel (the Legislative Branch), for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2007, as listed in the table of contents. These financial schedules are the responsibility of the Branch's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial schedules based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial schedules are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial schedules. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial schedule presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1 to the financial schedules, the Legislative Branch's financial schedules are prepared in accordance with state accounting policy, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial schedules referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the results of operations and changes in fund balances of the Legislative Branch for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2007, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and the Legislature and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated October 25, 2007 on our consideration of the Legislative Branch's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C.

Helena, Montana October 25, 2007

# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

State Special   State Special   General Fund   Revenue Fund   \$ (708,861)   \$ (211,387)	6,990 3,109,527 3,335 74,577 3nts	9,870,791 176,488 3,360,207	9,164,165 2,296,983 (1,146) (158) stments 495,999 518 9,659,018	\$ (486,763) \$ 1,274,251
FUND BALANCE: July 1, 2005	ADDITIONS  Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments	Direct Entries to Fund Balance Total Additions	REDUCTIONS Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments Total Reductions	FUND BALANCE: June 30, 2006

See the notes to financial statements.

# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

The second section of the section of the section of the second section of the sectio	Gene	General Fund	ω œ	State Special Revenue Fund	Total
OTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN BY CLASS					
Taxes	ь	2.154			\$ 2 154
Charges for Services		•	€*?	1 492 857	1
Investment Earnings			÷	17 039	17 039
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property		066.9		1 179 558	1 186 547
Miscellaneous		120,0		200	100° 1.
Grants, Contracts, Donations and Abandonments		-		320	320
Other Financing Sources				703 045	703 045
Total Revenues & Transfers-In		10.325	*****	3 183 719	3 194 045
Less: Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		3,335		74 577	77 913
Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments		1		(385)	(385)
Actual Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		6,990		3.109.527	3.116.516
Estimated Revenues & Transfers-In		5,911		3,167,819	3,173,730
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	<b>м</b>	1,079	\$	(58,292)	\$ (57,214)
BUDGETED REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN OVER (UNDER) ESTIMATED BY CLASS					
Charges for Services			₩	(118,338)	\$ (118,338)
investment Earnings				12,038	12,038
Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property	<del>(A)</del>	1,079		48,254	49,333
Grants, Contracts, Donations and Abandonments Other Einstein Semina Semina				(192)	(192)
Cities Tilialicing books				(22)	(52)
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	↔	1,079	₩	(58,292)	\$ (57,214)

See the notes to financial statements.

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Total	6,137,072 42,323 2,549,265 8,728,660	1,283,455 515,582 146,464 280,127 155,441 94,847 236,147 2,712,063	21,693 21,693 493,945	493,945	9,659,018 2,297,343 11,956,361 (1,304) 496,517 11,461,148 13,514,350 2,053,202	1,922,540 130,662 2,053,202
1	↔ !!	<b>!</b> ! !	<b> </b>	· •	s	s s
LEGISLATURE - SENATE	30,651 14,108 302,737 347,496	173 108 22 11,254 75 1049 13,037	68,450	68,450 428,983	428,983 428,983 44 68,450 360,489 796,828 436,339	436,339
J (F	<b>₩</b>		**************************************	€9	\$	s s
LEGISLATURE - HOUSE	\$ 48,915 28,215 628,768 705,898	135 195 59 26,326 75 1,691 28,481	146,670	146,670 \$ 881,049	\$ 881,049 881,049 (22) 146,670 734,401 1,212,097 \$ 477,696	\$ 477,696
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES FEED BILL	314	43,669 13,163 56,832	186,325	186,325 \$ 244,528	\$ 244,528 244,528 (1) 186,325 58,204 177,672 \$ 119,468	\$ 119,468
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	\$ 2,620,455 707,186 3,327,641	924,715 477,234 93,570 15,556 155,191 94,063 1,82,587 1,842,916	21,693 21,693 570	\$ 5,192,820	\$ 4,362,369 830,451 5,192,820 (557) 2,127 5,191,250 5,519,755 \$ 328,515	\$ 300,736 27,779 \$ 328,515
LEGIS. COMMITTEES & ACTIVITIES	\$ 81,261 7,782 89,043	195,912 1,396 6,179 174,273 100 111,706 489,565	150	\$ 578,758	\$ 546,556 32,202 578,758 4 164 578,590 690,352 \$ 111,762	\$ 93,964 17,798 \$ 111,762
FISCAL ANALYSIS & REVIEW	\$ 954,460 252,070 1,206,530	12,543 3,115 9,666 10,371 2 722 722 36,419	11,180	\$ 1,254,129	\$ 1,254,129 1,254,129 (214) 11,308 1,243,035 1,349,682 8 106,647	\$ 106,647 \$ 106,647
AUDIT & EXAMINATION	\$ 2,400,273 650,408 3,050,681	106,308 33,535 23,805 42,347 42,613 28,392	009.08		\$ 1,941,405 1,434,690 3,376,094 (558) 81,473 3,285,179 3,767,954 \$ 472,775	\$ 387,690 85,085 \$ 472,775
PROGRAM (ORG) EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT	Personal Services Salaries Other Compensation Employee Benefits Total	Operating Expenses Other Services Supplies & Materials Communications Travel Rent Repair & Maintenance Other Expenses Total	Equipment & Intangible Assets Equipment Total Transfers Accounting Entity Transfers Total	Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out  EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT BY FUND	General Fund State Special Revenue Fund Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out Less: Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments Prior Year Expenditures & Transfers-Out Adjustments Actual Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Budget Authority Unspent Budget Authority UNSPENT BUDGET AUTHORITY BY FUND	General Fund State Special Revenue Fund Unspent Budget Authority

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

			ഗ	State Special
	Ó	General Fund	ž	Revenue Fund
FUND BALANCE: July 1, 2006	₩	(486,763)	ا ج	1,274,251
ADDITIONS				
Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		32,216		1,953,061
Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In		2,290		48,241
Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments				442
Direct Entries to Fund Balance		14,563,204		(76,814)
Total Additions		14,597,709		1,924,930
REDUCTIONS				
Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out		14,985,870		1,971,075
Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out		(4,440)		(535)
Total Reductions		14,981,430		1,970,540
			,	
FUND BALANCE: June 30, 2007	₩	(870,484)	اا به	1,228,641

See the notes to financial statements.

# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

State Special Revenue General Fund Fund Total	antipopological antipopologica	1,925 \$ 1,925	\$ 1,559,296 1,559,296	27,899 27,899	32,216 33,299 65,515	365 365	1,550 1,550	379,700 379,700	34,506 2,001,744 2,036,250		442	1.985	1.876.117	\$ 76,944 \$		\$ 71636 \$ 71636	588.6		1,050 1,050		\$ 100
Gen		₩							MANAGE PARTIES AND ADDRESS AND					<del>ω</del>	CLASS			₩.			\$
	TOTAL REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN BY CLASS	Sexes	Charges for Services	Investment Earnings	Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property	Miscellaneous	Grants, Contracts, Donations and Abandonments	Other Financing Sources	Total Revenues & Transfers-In	Less: Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers-In	Prior Year Revenues & Transfers-In Adjustments	Actual Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In	Estimated Revenues & Transfers-In	Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated	BUDGETED REVENUES & TRANSFERS-IN OVER (UNDER) ESTIMATED BY CLASS	Charges for Services	Investment Earnings	Sale of Documents, Merchandise and Property	Grants, Contracts, Donations and Abandonments	Other Financing Sources	Budgeted Revenues & Transfers-In Over (Under) Estimated

See the notes to financial statements.

# LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SCHEDULE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

Total	\$ 8,758,749 1,791,621 3,094,621 13,644,991	1,168,200 439,824 145,073 292,357 159,586 110,388 381,638 2,697,066	226,646 226,646 383,267 383,267	\$ 16,951,970	\$ 14,981,430 1,970,540 16,951,970 (4,975) 16,956,945 20,738,514 \$ 3,781,569	\$ 3,613,591 167,978 \$ 3,781,569
LEGISLATURE - SENATE	\$ 812,414 596,746 443,438 1,852,598	18,468 18,672 3,646 52,673 2,175 65,111		\$ 2,013,343	\$ 2,013,343 2,013,343 (491) 2,013,834 3,087,522 \$ 1,073,688	\$ 1,073,688 \$ 1,073,688
LEGISLATURE HOUSE	\$ 1,329,734 1,194,875 893,637 3,418,246	22,011 22,114 4,357 101,761 1,875 108,693 260,611		3,679,057	\$ 3,679,057 3,679,057 (775) 3,679,832 5,092,216 \$ 1,412,384	1,412,384
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES FEED BILL	\$ 92,168	328,190 16,179 44,142 13 388,524		\$ 495,410	\$ 495,410 495,410 (55) 495,465 774,378 \$ 278,913	278.913 278.913
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	\$ 2,829,239 ( 750,860 3,580,099	721,503 344,203 61,853 14,096 155,436 110,388 58,712 1466,191	226,646 226,646 61,867 61,867	\$ 5,334,803	\$ 4,987,783 \$ 347,020 5,334,803 (1,621) 5,336,424 5,805,538 \$ 469,114 \$\$	\$ 408,739 \$ 60,375 \$ 469,114 \$
LEGIS. COMMITTEES & ACTIVITIES	\$ 32,126 3,119 35,245	7,644 266 2,352 62,866 113,911 118,019	6,500	\$ 228,784	\$ 222,727 \$ 6,057 228,784 (21) 228,805 310,592 \$ \$ 17,787 \$ \$	\$ 70,046 \$ 11,741 \$
FISCAL ANALYSIS & REVIEW	\$ 1,112,321 286,442 1,398,763	38,968 3,388 9,691 6,558 364 58,969	41,500	\$ 1,499,232	\$ 1,499,232 1,499,232 (591) 1,499,823 1,511,916 \$ 12,093	\$ 12,093 \$ 12,093
AUDIT & EXAMINATION	\$ 2,550,747 702,407 3,253,154	31,416 35,002 19,032 54,403 100 34,834	273.400 273.400	\$ 3,701,341	\$ 2,083,878 1,617,463 3,701,341 (1,421) 3,702,762 4,156,352 \$ 453,590	\$ 357,728 95,862 \$ 453,590
PROGRAM (ORG) EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT	Personal Services Salaries Other Compensation Employee Benefits	Operating Expenses Other Services Supplies & Materials Communications Travel Rent Rent Repair & Maintenance Other Expenses Total	Equipment & Intangible Assets Equipment Total Transfers Accounting Entity Transfers Total	Total Expenditures & Transfers-Out EXPENDITURES & TRANSFERS-OUT BY FUND	General Fund State Special Revenue Fund Total Exp enditures & Transfers-Out Less: Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Actual Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers-Out Budget Authority Unspent Budget Authority UNSPENT BUDGET AUTHORITY BY FUND	General Fund State Special Revenue Fund Unspent Budget Authority

See the notes to financial statements.

### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EXCLUDING THE CONSUMER COUNSEL NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2006 and 2007

#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of Accounting**

The Legislative Branch uses the modified accrual basis of accounting, as defined by state accounting policy, for its Funds. In applying the modified accrual basis, the Legislative Branch records:

Revenues when it receives cash or when receipts are measurable and available to pay current period liabilities.

Expenditures for valid obligations when the department incurs the related liability and it is measurable, with the exception of the cost of employees' annual and sick leave. State accounting policy requires the Legislative Branch to record the cost of employees' annual leave and sick leave when used or paid.

Expenditures and expenses may include: entire budgeted service contracts even though the Legislative Branch receives the services in a subsequent fiscal year; goods ordered with a purchase order before fiscal year-end, but not received as of fiscal year-end; and equipment ordered with a purchase order before fiscal year-end.

#### **Financial Schedule Presentation**

The financial schedule format is in accordance with the policy of the Legislative Audit Committee. The financial schedules are prepared from the transactions posted to the Statewide Accounting, Budgeting and Human Resource System without adjustment.

Accounts are organized in funds according to state law. The Legislative Branch uses the following funds:

#### **Governmental Funds:**

<u>General Fund</u> -used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

<u>Special Revenue Fund</u> -used to account for proceeds of specific revenue sources legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

#### 2. GENERAL FUND BALANCE

The General Fund is a statewide fund. Each agency does not have a separate General Fund since its only authority is to pay obligations from the statewide General Fund within its appropriation limits. The beginning and ending fund balances reported on the accompanying Schedules of Changes in Fund Balance reflect the Legislative Branch's, excluding the Consumer Counsel, share of the statewide General Fund balance for the years ended June 30, 2006 and 2007.

P.O. Box 1164 Helena, Montana 59624 ph. (406) 442-6901 fx. (406) 442-9690 www.jccspa.com

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the financial schedules of the Legislative Branch, excluding the Consumer Counsel (the Legislative Branch), for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2007 and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 2007. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Legislative Branch's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Legislative Branch's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Legislative Branch's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the organization's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the organization's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the organization's internal control.

A material weakness is a a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the organization's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Report on internal control and compliance

Page 2 of 2

#### Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Legislative Branch's financial schedules are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial schedule amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of the Legislative Branch in a separate letter dated October 25, 2007.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Legislature and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C.

Helena, Montana October 25, 2007

#### **Montana Legislative Services Division**

PO BOX 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706 (406) 444-3064 FAX (406) 444-3036

#### Office of the Executive Director

October 26, 2007

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C. Certified Public Accountants P.O. Box 1164 Helena MT 59624-1164

RE: Legislative Branch Audit Response

Dear Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C.:

We have reviewed the draft audit report for the Legislative Branch and the conclusion that our agency accounting meets all tested standards and that no recommendations for improvement were necessary.

We are also pleased we have a long history of clean audits. The dedication and cooperation of a number of people have made this possible. In particular, the staff of the Financial and Human Resources Office has consistently ensured that high standards of accounting are met and maintained.

Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,

Swan G. Tox

Susan Byorth Fox Executive Director

P.O. Box 1164 Helena, Montana 59624 ph. (406) 442-6901 fx. (406) 442-9690 www.jccspa.com

Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

October 25, 2007

To the Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the financial schedules of the Legislative Branch, excluding the Consumer Counsel (the Legislative Branch), for the years ended June 30, 2007, and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 2007. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audits.

#### Our Responsibility under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audits to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial schedules are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with State accounting policy. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.

As part of our audits, we considered the internal control of the Legislative Branch. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial schedules are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the Legislative Branch's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

#### Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Legislative Branch are described in Note 1 to the financial schedules.

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature October 25, 2007
Page 2 of 3

No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, and 2006. We noted no transactions entered into by the Legislative Branch during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

#### Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial schedules prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial schedules and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no significant estimates affecting the financial schedules.

#### Audit Adjustments

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a significant audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial schedules that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Legislative Branch's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). We proposed no audit adjustments that could, in our judgment, either individually or in the aggregate, indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Legislative Branch's financial reporting process.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial schedules or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audits.

#### Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial schedules or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those schedules, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature October 25, 2007 Page 3 of 3

#### <u>Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors</u>

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Legislative Branch's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Legislature and management of the Legislative Branch, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Junkermier, Clark, Campanella, Stevens, P.C.

Helena, Montana